

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Device for treating at least one surface of an object, the device having a first input for receiving objects coming from a loader intended to contain for containing a plurality of such objects, a second input, distinct from the first input, for receiving objects supplied individually by a user of the device, and including at least one operating chain having an input intended to receive objects from the first and second inputs of the device an operating chain including a succession of operating stations each being arranged for carrying out an action on a surface of said object, said operating chain having an input for receiving objects from the first and second inputs of the device, the first and second inputs of the device being situated on both sides of said operating chain, the device including a router for routing to the input of said operating chain an object introduced into the device through its second input, each operating chain including at least one operating station capable of carrying out an action on a surface of said object, said device characterised in that the first and second inputs of the device are situated either side of the operating chain, the device being provided with routing means for routing to the input of the operating chain an object introduced into the device through its second input.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 1, characterised in that further including a programming arrangement for previously inhibiting or enabling the action that at least one operating station is capable of carrying out can be previously inhibited or enabled by programming.

4. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the operating chain ~~being provided with~~ includes a drive means for making it possible to move moving the objects from its input to an output of said operating chain, said drive means ~~are being~~ are capable of being configured in a reverse working mode in which ~~they make it possible to~~ the drive can move the objects from the output to the input of the operating chain, and ~~in that~~ the second input of the device is being disposed so it faces ~~facing~~ said output of the operating chain, the ~~routing means~~ router including ~~being formed by said drive means~~ configured in a reverse working mode.

5. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the loader ~~being provided with~~ includes a first wall intended to prevent for preventing motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, and ~~with a~~ second wall intended to prevent for preventing motion of said objects in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, the first and second walls having ends which are separated by an opening intended to arranged so it can be passed through by an object, at least part of said second wall of the loader is being movable, the treatment device ~~being provided with movement means including a drive~~ for controlling a movement of said movable part of the second wall for enabling an adjustment of the size of said opening.

6. (Currently amended) A treatment device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the loader ~~being provided with~~ includes a first wall P1 intended to prevent for preventing motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, and ~~with a~~ second wall P2 intended to prevent for preventing motion of said objects in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, the first and second walls having ends which are separated by an opening intended to arranged so it can be passed through by an object, the loader ~~includes including~~ a slider block GLS ~~capable of for~~ moving along the second wall in the first direction under the effect of a force produced by an elastic element, the objects contained in the loader being ~~intended to be~~ disposed between

said slider block and the first wall, the loader also including ~~regulation means intended to keep~~ a regulator for maintaining substantially constant the force exerted on the object ~~that one of the objects~~ contained in the loader which is closest to the first wall.

7. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 6, wherein the regulator ~~regulation means include~~ includes a spring disposed parallel to the second direction and connected to a first and a second articulation respectively arranged between first and second rods, on the one hand, and third and fourth rods, on the other hand, ends of the first and second rods being connected by hinge joints to first and second guide channels respectively arranged in the loader and the slider block, and ends of the third and fourth rods being connected by hinge joints to fixed points respectively arranged in the loader and the slider block.

8. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that,~~ wherein the loader ~~being provided with~~ includes a first wall for preventing ~~intended to prevent~~ motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, the device also including a spacer for movement ~~includes spacing means intended to move~~ in the first direction that the object ~~one of the objects~~ contained in the loader which is closest to the first wall for moving ~~in order to move~~ it away from said first wall for forming ~~in order to make~~, between said object and said first wall, a storage space ~~capable of~~ for at least partially receiving an object coming from the operating chain.

9.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that,~~ wherein the operating chain ~~being provided with~~ includes a drive means ~~making it possible to move~~ for moving the objects from its input to an output of said operating chain, said drive ~~means are~~ capable of being configured in a reverse working mode in which ~~they make it possible to move~~ the objects can be moved from the output to the input of the operating chain, and ~~in that~~ the second input of the device is ~~disposed~~

facing said output of the operating chain, the ~~routing means~~ router ~~being formed by including~~ said drive ~~means~~ configured in reverse working mode.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that, wherein~~ the loader ~~being provided with~~ includes a first wall intended to prevent for preventing motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, and ~~with a~~ second wall intended to prevent for preventing motion of said objects in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, the first and second walls having ends which are separated by an opening intended arranged to be passed through by an object, at least part of said second wall of the loader is being movable, the treatment device ~~being provided including with movement means~~ a drive for controlling a movement of said movable part of the second wall for adjusting ~~enabling an adjustment~~ of the size of said opening.

14. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that, wherein~~ the loader ~~being provided with~~ includes a first wall intended to prevent for preventing motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, and ~~with a~~ second wall intended to prevent for preventing motion of said objects in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, the first and second walls having ends which are separated by an opening intended arranged to be passed through by an object, at least part of said second wall of the loader is being movable, the treatment device ~~being provided with movement means~~ including a drive for controlling a movement of said movable part of the second wall for enabling an adjustment of the size of said opening.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) A treatment device according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that,~~ wherein the loader being provided with includes a first wall P1 ~~intended to prevent for preventing~~ motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, and ~~with a~~ second wall P2 ~~intended to prevent for preventing~~ motion of said objects in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, the first and second walls having ends which are separated by an opening ~~intended to~~ arranged so it can be passed through by an object, the loader ~~includes including~~ a slider block GLS ~~capable of for~~ moving along the second wall in the first direction under the effect of a force produced by an elastic element, the objects contained in the loader being ~~intended to be~~ disposed between said slider block and the first wall, the loader also including ~~regulation means intended to keep~~ a regulator for maintaining substantially constant the force exerted on the object ~~that one of the objects~~ contained in the loader which is closest to the first wall.

17. (Currently amended) A treatment device according to claim 4, ~~characterised in that,~~ wherein the loader being provided with includes a first wall P1 ~~intended to prevent for preventing~~ motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, and ~~with a~~ second wall P2 ~~intended to prevent for preventing~~ motion of said objects in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, the first and second walls having ends which are separated by an opening ~~intended to~~ arranged so it can be passed through by an object, the loader ~~includes including~~ a slider block GLS ~~capable of for~~ moving along the second wall in the first direction under the effect of a force produced by an elastic element, the objects contained in the loader being ~~intended to be~~ disposed between said slider block and the first wall, the loader also including ~~regulation means intended to keep~~ a regulator for maintaining substantially constant the force exerted on the object ~~that one of the objects~~ contained in the loader which is closest to the first wall.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that,~~ wherein the loader being provided with includes a first wall for preventing ~~intended to~~

~~prevent~~ motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, the device also ~~including a spacer for movement~~ ~~includes spacing means intended to move~~ in the first direction that ~~the object~~ ~~one of the objects~~ contained in the loader which is closest to the first wall ~~for moving in order to move~~ it away from said first wall ~~for forming in order to make~~, between said object and said first wall, a storage space ~~capable of~~ for at least partially receiving an object coming from the operating chain.

20. (Currently amended) Treatment device according to claim 4, ~~characterised in that,~~ ~~wherein the loader being provided with~~ includes a first wall for preventing ~~intended to prevent~~ motion in a first direction of the objects contained in the loader, the device also ~~including a spacer for movement~~ ~~includes spacing means intended to move~~ in the first direction that ~~the object~~ ~~one of the objects~~ contained in the loader which is closest to the first wall ~~for moving in order to move~~ it away from said first wall ~~for forming in order to make~~, between said object and said first wall, a storage space ~~capable of~~ for at least partially receiving an object coming from the operating chain.

21. (New) Treatment device according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the operating stations includes a magnetic strip encoder for applying a magnetic strip to the surface of said object.

22. (New) Treatment device according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the operating stations includes a printer for applying a printed strip to the surface of said object.